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1919,

A NEW AUSTRALIAN SPECIES OF *RIOXA*, WITH A REMARKABLE LIFE.

HABIT (DIPT.; TRYPANEIDAE).

By Prof. M. BEZZI,

Turin, Italy.

Dr. Guy A. K. Marshall has recently submitted to me a Trypaneid, discovered in Northern Australia by Mr. G. F. Hill. The fly is said to have been bred from larvae having habits very different from those of the related members of the family; and being moreover interesting from a morphological and biogeographical standpoint, it forms the object of the present note.

The Oriental species of CERATITINAE with 6 bristles on the scutellum, with a complete thoracic chaetotaxy, with a briefly third longitudinal vein, with a not wavy second longitudinal vein, and with a wing-pattern consisting of an extended brown patch with hyaline spots and hyaline indentations, have been ascribed by me* to the two genera Diarrhegma and Rioxa. While the first of these genera is less numerous and is well characterised by the form of the head, the second contains heterogeneous elements, which have been divided by me into three groups. Following on this, Prof. Hendel† erected the new genus Hexacinia for the peculiar group of stellata, Macq., and divided the remaining species into the genera Rioxa (with a pectinate arista) and Rioxoptilona (with a plumose arista). But this last distinction seems to be a premature one, as it is impossible to draw a starp line of separation between the species in which the arista is plumose on the upper side alone, and those in which it is plumose on both sides.

I have before two species of Australian TRYPANEIDAE which are referable to the genus *Rioza, s.l.*; they closely resemble one another both in body coloration and wing markings, but may be distinguished as follows:—

1(2). Two upper and two lower pairs of orbital bristles present; arists regularly pilose, with some short hairs only on the under side; mesonotum and scutellum without dark spots, the latter with the middle pair of bristles weaker than the others; discoidal cell with two hyaline spots, which are confluent with the hyaline indentations of the hind border.

musae, Froggatt

(C572) P4140. 1,000. 10.19. B. & F. Ltd. G.11.

^{*} Mem. Ind. Mus., Calcutta, 1913, iii, pp. 53-175, pl. viii-x (vide pp. 108 and 111 † Wien. Ent. Zeit., 1914, xxxiii, pp. 73-98 (vide pp. 78 and 82).